

Norwood PCBs

March 2007



Norwood PCBs Superfund Site Activity Update

Groundwater Treatment Plant Being Decommissioned

Results of a July 2005 comprehensive round of groundwater and sediment sampling confirmed the groundwater cleanup standards, adopted in January 2005, are being met without the use of the treatment plant. In June 2006 MassDEP agreed with EPA's proposal to dismantle and decommission the groundwater treatment plant. Neighbors will see EPA contractors on-site during March and April using heavy machinery to remove the treatment equipment (examples of which are shown in the photos). The plant equipment will be relocated and reused, to the extent possible, at other EPA Superfund sites. Additionally, 13 monitoring wells, 2 on Pellana Road, 2 on Kerry Place, 9 on-site, will be pulled out and the holes filled with concrete. The metal building will remain, based on an agreement between EPA and the property owner. The property owner will be responsible for the building's future dismantling.



Filter Press

What Happens Now: On-going Requirements

The settling defendants are required to continue biannual environmental sampling, inspections, and any necessary repairs of the cap, cover, and detention basin. The most recent sampling conducted in 2006 showed the cleanup levels are being met for all contaminants of concern. Land use restrictions, also called institutional controls, have been developed by EPA and MassDEP and will be required to be implemented and maintained.

EPA will continue to conduct Five Year Reviews; the next of which will be in 2009. A Five-Year Review evaluates the cleanup activities undertaken at a Superfund hazardous waste site every five years to ensure the protection of human health and the environment. These reviews are completed at sites where hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants remain on-site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure.

Potential Redevelopment

EPA works to cleanup the country's most hazardous waste sites in order to protect human health and the environment. EPA also



Low Profile Air Stripper

strives to return sites to productive use by implementing Superfund cleanup plans that are consistent with the anticipated future use of the sites. In order to ensure the Norwood PCBs site's cleanup actions remain protective of human health and the environment, EPA and MassDEP established rules for any potential redevelopment project and any activity would have to be closely coordinated with both agencies. Violation of such rules would lead to significant fines and other legal penalties. Land use restrictions for the site are being developed and will include:

- no residential use;
- no day care or educational use;
- no groundwater use;
- no interfering with or disrupting cap and cover areas containing the contaminated materials unless certain requirements are met.

These restrictions do not prevent further site redevelopment provided any such activities can meet both federal and state human health and environmental protection standards. EPA and MassDEP, by continuing to review any redevelopment plans, will ensure the protectiveness of the site's cleanup approach and compliance with any land use restrictions. Final approval of any redevelopment is subject to local and state land use approvals that may be required.



Filter Press

Site Cleanup History

1986	June	Site listed on EPA's National Priorities List of Superfund Sites.
1989	Sept.	EPA's cleanup plan issued.
1996	Mar.	EPA begins groundwater treatment.
	May	EPA revises cleanup plan.
	Aug.	EPA negotiates agreement requiring Settling Defendants to perform certain cleanup activities.
	Oct.	Grant Gear building demolition activities begin and were completed in February 1997 by Settling Defendants.
1997	Apr.	Soil/sediment excavation and cap/cover cleanup activities begin and were completed in August 1998 by Settling Defendants.
	July	Site purchased.
	Sept.	EPA negotiates reuse rules with new property owner.
	Oct.	EPA Meadow Brook restoration activities begin and were completed in July 1999.
2000	June	EPA suspends groundwater treatment pending MassDEP revised groundwater classification and new risk assessment result.
2001	May	MassDEP revises groundwater classification.
2001-2004		EPA conducts additional studies which demonstrate proposed revised groundwater cleanup levels protective.
2004		EPA approves Settling Defendants' Operation and Maintenance Plan.
2005	Jan.	EPA revises groundwater cleanup levels due to revised groundwater classification and additional study results.
	July	Final comprehensive round of groundwater and sediment sampling confirm new cleanup standards being met.
2006		MassDEP concurs with EPA's proposal to decommission groundwater treatment plant.
2007		EPA decommissions groundwater treatment plant.

For More Information:

Dan Keefe, U.S. EPA Jay Naparstek, MassDEP
Project Manager 617-292-5697
617-918-1327 jay.naparstek@state.ma.us
keefe.daniel@epa.gov
Stacy Greendlinger, U.S. EPA
Community Involvement
617-918-1403
greendlinger.stacy@epa.gov



Process Tank